



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,  
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## ***RANUNCULUS HYPERBOREUS*** **HIGH-ARCTIC BUTTERCUP**

High-Arctic Buttercup is a glabrous perennial with prostrate stems that root at the nodes. The alternate leaves have long petioles and palmately 3-lobed leaves that are 5-10 mm long and at least as wide. Solitary, stalked flowers arise from the leaf axils. Sepals are 2-3 mm long, and the yellow petals are 2-4 mm long. There are 15-20 glabrous achenes; each is ca. 1 mm long, has a short beak, and is borne in a nearly globose cluster. Flowering and fruiting in August.

The more common *RANUNCULUS NATANS* is very similar to *R. HYPERBOREUS*, but leaves of the former have a sinus at the base where the petiole is attached, while leaves of the latter taper abruptly at the base.